

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application

Applicant: Abarra et al.

Serial No.: 09/425,788

Filed: October 22, 1999

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM
AND MAGNETIC STORAGE
APPARATUS

Art Unit: 1773

Examiner: Rickman, H.

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

10/16/2003

Date

F-CLASS.WCM

Appr. February 20, 1998

James K. Folker

Registration No.

37,538

Attorney for Applicant

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

James K. Folker

James K. Folker

Registration No. 37,538

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978



Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 8-88) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney Docket No.: 0941.63365	Serial No.: 09/425,788
	Applicant: Abarra et al.		
	Filing Date: October 22, 1999		Group: 1773

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,820,963	Oct. 13, 1998	LU et al.			
	5,954,927	Sept. 21, 1999	KOBAYASHI et al.			
	6,372,330	Apr. 16, 2002	DO et al. -			
	2002/0098390A1	July 25, 2002	DO et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
						Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	M.Venkatraman and J.P. Neumann, CR-Ru (Chromium -Ruthenium), "Binary Alloy Phase Diagrams," Second Edition, 1990, ASM International pp. 1322-1323.

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	